

Last Updated on March 10, 2006

To all persons who live in the United States or its territories and purchased a Gator Hawk Armor bullet-resistant vest made with any Zylon®

Your rights may be affected by a pending lawsuit

In the Fourth Judicial District

Circuit Court, Duval County, Florida

Civil Department

Case No. 001287

Welcome to the website established in connection with the class action known as:

**SOUTHERN STATES POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC., et al. vs.
GATOR HAWK ARMOR, INC.**

Summary

A settlement in the case was reached between the parties and preliminarily approved on January 30, 2006. The lawsuit is a class action that asserts that the Defendant, Gator Hawk Armor, Inc. ("Gator Hawk") manufactured bullet-resistant vests containing Zylon®, that failed to meet the performance characteristics for which they were warranted. Gator Hawk Armor denies the allegations of the lawsuit and the Court has not made a ruling either way.

The vests involved were sold by Gator Hawk and their distributors to state and local law enforcement agencies and others and include the following popular models: Excel Level 2A, Excel Level 2 and Excel level 3A. On August 24, 2005, the United States Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice, decertified all vests containing-Zylon® and on the same date issued a warning stating "The National Institute of Justice hereby advises that it has identified...Zylon® as a material that appears to create a risk of death or serious injury as a result of degraded ballistic performance when used in body armor." Gator Hawk does not concur with the conclusions reached by the NIJ.

The Settlement provides two primary benefits:

New non-Zylon® ballistic panels – Class members are entitled to receive new non-Zylon® replacement panels at no cost and a voucher sufficient to receive a new standard carrier with the replacement panels. Gator Hawk will be responsible for all transaction costs associated with the delivery of the replacement panels to Class members; or

Voucher Option – Instead of receiving new non Zylon® replacement panels, Class members have the option of receiving a fully-transferable voucher(s) to be used in the future to purchase any ballistic vest system from Gator Hawk at a purchase price of forty-five percent off the retail price for that product (i.e. state contract price).

As described in the Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQ") section, the Notice of Pendency of Class Action, Proposed Settlement and Final Approval Hearing ("Mail Notice") and the Gator

Hawk Armor Vest Claim Form **have been or will be mailed** to **all known** members of the Class explaining their rights under the proposed Settlement. A copy of the Notice and related documents and forms can also be downloaded from the “Documents” section of this website.

Important Dates

Deadline to Exclude Yourself from Plaintiff Class – April 25, 2006

Deadline to File a Claim Form – August 5, 2006

Class members should continue to check this website for updates to ensure that they receive relevant information.